United Nations A/64/L.53

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
24 May 2010

Original: English

Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 48
Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Australia, Belarus, Bulgaria, Canada, Egypt, Italy, Lithuania, Morocco, Oman, Portugal, Republic of Korea and Russian Federation: draft resolution

World Statistics Day

The General Assembly,

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General to the Statistical Commission at its forty-first session,[1] as well as the Commission's decision 41/109,[2] in which it endorsed the proposal to celebrate 20 October 2010 as World Statistics Day,

Recognizing the long history of official statistics and the facilitating role played by the United Nations since the creation in 1947 of the Statistical Commission, which was tasked with promoting the development of national statistics and improving their comparability, coordinating the statistical work of specialized agencies, developing central statistical services of the Secretariat, advising the organs of the United Nations on general questions relating to the collection, analysis and dissemination of statistical information and promoting the improvement of statistics and statistical methods generally,

Acknowledging the fundamental importance of sustainable national statistical capacity to produce reliable and timely statistics and indicators measuring a country's progress, which are an indispensable basis for informed policy decision-making and for monitoring the Millennium Development Goals at the national, regional and international levels,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/6 entitled "Strengthening statistical capacity", in which the Council called upon Member States, the United Nations system, international agencies, donor countries and

[1] E/CN.3/2010/12.

[2] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2010, Supplement No. 4* (E/2010/24), chap. I.B.

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organizations to support national efforts in building and strengthening national statistical capacity, in particular of developing countries,

Recalling also the adoption of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics[3] by the Statistical Commission at its special session in 1994 as a milestone in the codification and promotion of basic values in official statistics,

Noting that many Member States and some regions already celebrate official statistics through a variety of national and regional initiatives, such as designated months, weeks, days or events, and welcoming their support and willingness to coordinate such events under the auspices of the United Nations,

1. *Decides* to designate 20 October 2010 as World Statistics Day under the general theme of "Celebrating the many achievements of official statistics" and the core values of service, integrity and professionalism;

2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, such as research institutions, media and all producers and users of official statistics, to observe World Statistics Day in an appropriate manner;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures for the observance by the United Nations of World Statistics Day in 2010 and to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States and United Nations organizations;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution and on the experiences of World Statistics Day to the Statistical Commission at its forty-second session.

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[3] Ibid., *1994 Supplement No. 9* (E/1994/29), para. 59.